The Halifax Amateur Radio Club



# REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895 HALIFAX NS B3K 5M5 January 2013, Volume 74 Number 1 club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



## A Happy & Healthy 2013 to All



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

#### Executive

President - Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2761 ve1qd@rac.ca

First V.P. - Bill Elliott, VE1MR 865-8567 bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

2nd V.P. - VACANT

Secretary - Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF		VE1JHF@Gmail.com
Treasurer - John Goddwin, VE1CDD	865-5731	VE1CDD@eastlink.ca
Co-Treasurer – Jim Guilford, VE1JG	466-2124	jimguilford@gmail.com
Director-at-Large: - Doug LeBlanc, VE1LDL	465-4665	leblanc@accesscable.net
Club Station Mgr Jim Flowers, VE1JIM	443-8657	ve1jim@ns.sympatico.ca
Past President - Fraser MacDougal, VE1WO	865-4198	fmac@ns.sympatico.ca

#### **Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts**

Government liaison - VACANT

QSL Bureau Mgr - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC 477-7081 tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca EMO Coordinator - Dave George, VE1AJP 466-8723 dgeorge@dal.ca EMO Trailer coordinator – David Musgrave, VE1EDA 435-4333 ve1eda@rac.ca Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT 865-8567 bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca Reflector Dist. - Carol Wood, VE1HAZ carolwood@accesswave.ca Membership - Carol Wood, VE1HAZ carolwood@accesswave.ca Web page – Brandon, Detmers VA1BSD brandon.detmers@dal.ca Basic ham course - Erik Hein, VE1JEH bravojeh@gmail.com 826-7145

2012 Flea market Chair – Murray MacDonald, VE1BB

Callbook Editor – Howard Dickson, VE1DHD, 823-2024 dhdickson@eastlink.ca

Field Day coordinator - VACANT

Safety Officer - Terry Bigelow, VE1TRB ve1trb@eastlink.ca NSARA Director - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI 861-3719 ve1tri@rac.ca

Honorary Legal Counsel - Paul Radford, VE1ARH

#### Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Everett Price, VO1DK vo1dk@rac.ca
RAC Section Manager - Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS cseaboye@stfx.ca
RAC Assistant Director for HRM Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2761 ve1qd@rac.ca

#### Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation. We need at least 2 more. **If you want to join**, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



Jan.	13	Bruce	VE1MLW
Jan.	20	Emil	VE1ESP
Jan.	27	Peter	VE1PJW
Feb.	3	Win	VE1WIN
Feb.	10	Erik	VE1JEH
Feb.	17	Doug	VE1LDL
Feb.	21	Bruce	VE1MLW

Deadline for submissions to the February Reflector is Saturday, February 9, 2013

Sign In an office:



Would the Person Who Took the STEP LADDER Yesterday Please Bring It Back OR Further Steps Will Be Taken The January 16, 2013, **General Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will be held in the Senior's Room on the 1st floor of the St. Andrew's Centre, 3380 Barnstead Lane, Halifax.

Social Hour begins at 6:30 p.m.

As usual, refreshments will be available.

Our first program of 2013 will be provided by Ian MacFarquhar, VE9IM, and the First Vice-President of RAC. Ian will share with us some good news from our National Organization when he addresses *RAC*; *Progress and New Directions in 2013*.

Guests are welcome

#### **Notice of Motion**

The executive is recommending the club purchase a vertical antenna for portable use. After looking at what was available and considering price, reviews of users and ease of transport and use, the Zero Five 80M to 6M was chosen. The following motion will be presented at the January meeting.

That the club approve up to \$400 to purchase a Zero Five 80M to 6M vertical antenna.

# GENERAL INFORMATION



Sunday evenings:

TAKE-15 NET at 8:30 PM

CLUB REPEATERS:

VE1PSR - 147.270 MHz + TX=82.5 VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +

VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -

access tone 151.4 Hz

VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz - TX=82.5

PACKET: VE1NSD 145.050 MHz LAN NODE

# Events for Your Calendar

**Basic Radio Licensing Course** for If you know of anyone who is interested in getting an amateur radio li-

cense, please have them get in touch with Erik, VE1JEH

February – Guides on the Air

The NSARA Contest takes place each year on the second Sunday in March

May 18 – Downeast Flea Market June, last full weekend -Field Day 2013

July – Museum Ships Special Event

July - IOTA (Islands on the Air)

July & August – Pizza Nights

August – MS Bike Tour Contact Rick Gardner, VE1RGG, to help with communications

August – NSARA Picnic

Northern Lights

August – International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend

For more information see

http://www.lighthouse.fsnet.co.uk/ events/intlighthouseday.html

One great thing about our Canadian winters is the lack of certain bloodthirsty outdoor pests, mosquitoes for one. There are currently about 3.500 species of mosquitoes, the world's most dangerous animal. Mosquitoes carry West Nile virus, encephalitis, and many other diseases especially malaria. Malaria infects 247 million people each year and kills a million. One bit of good news is that it is impossible to catch AIDS from a mosquito bite because the mosquito digests the AIDS virus along with the rest of the blood; the saliva injected when it bites has never comes in contact with its previous blood meal. Mosquitoes beat their wings 300 to

Mosquitoes beat their wings 300 to 600 times per second generating tones between middle C and F.

Source: an article in Up Here magasine "Into the Land of Mosquitoes" by Jerry Kobalenko

Guides on the Air (GOTA) - February, 2013. Contact Helen Archibald, VA1YL, for information about this event. Helen is the CLARA (Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Association) GOTA coordinator for all of Canada.

#### **2013 Membership Incentive**

Jim Guilford, VE1JG, the winner of the major door prize at this years Flea Market, has graciously donated the Duel Band Alinco Handheld radio back to the Club as he has no present use for it. He asked the Executive to decide what the most appropriate use of this radio would be.

The Executive has decided that we would use this gift as an incentive for Membership for 2013. Any person who takes out a new membership or renews their existing membership prior to the end of March 2013 will be eligible for the draw which will take place prior to the April Monthly Meeting. The winner will be announced at that time.

# Keep our Club Station Shipshape PLEASE!

We have a grand Club Station and I'm sure that everyone knows to clean up after yourself but also, PLEASE, any time you are the last person leaving the Club Station make sure that

- 1/ all windows are closed
- 2/ the air conditioners are off
- 3/ all radio equipment is turned off
- 4/ the lights are off
- 5/ the door is locked

Sign in a department store washroom



Toilet Out of Order. Please Use Floor Below



# RAC Bulletin 2012-065E - **Bob** Nash VE3KZ appointed to Hall of Fame 2012-11-08

The Board of Trustees of the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame is pleased to appoint Robert Nash VE3KZ of Milton, ON to the Hall of Fame. Bob will be presented with this award at a meeting to be arranged in Toronto in early 2013, at which time a more detailed summary of his contributions to amateur radio will be published in The Canadian Amateur magazine.

file:///C|/Users/Paul/Desktop/ December%20newsletter/December %20newsletter/

rac\_report\_december2012\_browser.
html[26/12/2012 3:54:56 PM]
Nominations for the Hall of Fame must be submitted by Sept. 30th annually. The appointment is to recognize an amateur for outstanding achievement for sustained service to amateur radio in Canada, or amateur radio at large. The Board of Trustees consists of an amateur radio representative from each province of Canada.

Radio Amateurs of Canada congratulates Bob Nash on this award. Ed Frazer, VE7EF, Chair, Board of

Trustees, Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of

# Are you up to date with your HARC membership dues?

Fame, Radio Amateurs of Canada

Yearly rates are:

Full = \$30 Associate = \$15 Family (2 members) = \$45 + \$15 for each additional family member at the same address (receive only 1 newsletter). Use the Membership form on page 10 of this Reflector or contact Membership Chair Carol Wood, VE1HAZ,

carolwood@accesswave.ca

Of the 43 species of gull found in the world, 15 breed in Canada. Source – Canadian Wildlife Service



#### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE January, 2013

A very Happy New year to everyone! This is my first report to you since I was elected at the November AGM. Since I wasn't there (still in Mexico), I want to thank the outgoing Executive, and especially Fraser MacDougall, VE1WO, for passing a well running Club to me. Moreover, since most members are continuing on the Executive, the pool of talent and experience is deep and will make my task easier! We will miss Betty, VE1BSW, who did a very good job of organizing the social part of our monthly programs.

Our Nominations Committee, lead by Past President Fraser, will be operating throughout the year to recruit people for the many positions that must be filled each year to maintain our impressive range of activities. Fraser will likely be looking for a couple of people to join his committee. Doug Le Blanc, VE1LDL, has agreed to step *part way* into the role of 1<sup>st</sup> VP. He will be working on the arrangements for meetings, including refreshments and prizes, while I will help with arranging the monthly programs. There is still a vacant spot on the Executive for someone wishing get their feet wet at the management level.

Murray MacDonald, VE1BB, has agreed to lead this year's Flea Market on 18 May. Moreover, he will be responsible for exploring with other Clubs the possibility of producing one large, annual Maritime Flea market or Ham fest in the future. We are also on the look-out for a Chair for Field Day this year. We will be entering in the 2F Class from an Emergency Operations Center, namely our own Club facilities, on 23 -24 June.

Our first program of 2013 will be provided by Ian MacFarquhar, VE9IM, and the First Vice-President of RAC. Ian will share with us some good news from our National Organization when he addresses RAC; Progress, and New Directions in 2013. Oh, I dare say that he still has some big challenges to talk about too! Excellent programs are being lined up for each meeting in 2013 and will be announced in my February message.

Finally warm congratulations to Bill, VE1MR, Doug, VE1LDL, Wayne, VE1WPH and Terry, VE1TRB for their outstanding work in successfully completing from CP Allen High School in Bedford a well publicized ARISS contact with Chris Hadfield on the International Space Station. This happened on Saturday, 5 January. I am looking forward to a great year and with everyone's help, a successful year!

K. Scott Wood, VE10D

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report

Nothing to report Bill, VE1MR

#### Station Manager's Report

Nothing to report

Jim, VE1JIM

#### Secretary's Report

"Nothing to report." Jeremy, VE1JHF

#### Report of Director-at-Large

Nothing to report

- Doug, VE1LDL

### **RAC President's Report** Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW - RAC

President (ve4baw@rac.ca)

#### Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The year 2013 will begin with RAC at a crossroads. We have turned the corner financially; although there are still too many "hidden subsidies" where Amateur volunteers are supporting RAC financially through direct and indirect expenses.

RAC has cut costs to the bone including not paying the expenses of volunteers, eliminating any discretionary expenses and reducing office expenses. We found financial bottom in 2011. We became solvent by the end of the second quarter 2012.

We found membership bottom in 2011. Membership is now increasing. More work is still required to continue to improve the health of your national organization.

RAC currently has only one major line of income and that is membership fees. RAC has been actively seeking other lines of income to offset the need to raise dues and will continue to look for opportunities.

Every dollar that we can raise through third parties is a dollar that we don't have to raise from our members. No RAC Director or member of the Executive has or will have any financial stake in these present and any future partners. As I have stated before we will not sell nor release our membership lists to third parties for their use. These practices are not unusual for non-profit organizations including other Amateur Radio national societies.

I would like to congratulate Bob Nash, VE3KZ, on his appointment to the Hall of Fame. Bob will be presented with this award at a meeting to be arranged in Toronto in early 2013.

The Restructuring of the Ontario Section is now complete and I am pleased to welcome 4 new Ontario

(Continued on page 5)



Amateur Radio Basic License class of 2012;

Back row left to right – Mary Nasi, Alex Tikhomirov, Fred Pegley, Paul Geddes, and (instructor) Fred Archibald, VE1FA

Front row, left to right – Brandon Fowler, Graham Fowler, Laura Muise and William Harris

A number of these students have already written the basic exam, passed and have applied for call signs. A few plan to write after January's school exams are over. So far, per the IC website, new calls are:

Will Harris VA1INN Alex Tikhomirov,

VE1RUS Fred Pegley VE1PEG Brandon Fowler,

**VE1BMF** 

In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained

about

the heat?

#### AT&T video Seven Hilltops....

This 1947 video traces the history of hilltop-to-hilltop communications from smoke signals to Microwave relays.

Seven Hilltops was an interstitial in the film Rehearsal: The Bell Telephone Hour, which was released to theaters in 1947. The animated interstitial film traces communications via hilltop-to-hilltop from its earliest origins — Native American smoke signals and 1800s mirror signaling.

In 1947, microwave radio relays had just been developed (during WWII), and were being rolled out across the United States. Dependent on terrain, this method of radio-relaying telephone conversations and television signals was only useful in certain geographic areas, and within a certain range. In 1951, the first television signal made its way across the United States using a combination of microwave radio relay and coaxial cable.

By the time more powerful microwave transmitting towers were designed — 1980s — the microwave television/ telephone signals were beamed from city to city across the United States, rather than just hilltop-to-hilltop, with a few exceptions. Most cities throughout the East and Midwest had microwave relay arrays at the top of the tallest building in the city, usually concealed by the building's architecture, but occasionally on display. And even though microwave relays are rarely in use today, their distinctive shovel-shaped antennae can still be seen.

Watch Seven Hilltops (with Bonus Edition Introduction):

http://techchannel.att.com/play-video.cfm/2012/7/10/AT&T-Archives-Seven-Hilltops-Bonus-Edition

More Videos at AT&T Archives: http://techchannel.att.com/

From Ken, VY2RU

When trouble arises and things look bad, there is always one individual who perceives a solution and is willing to take command.

Very often, that individual is crazy.

The ARRL Contest Branch page is at

http://www.arrl.org/contests/

http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/weeklycont.html

Do you have pictures, an interesting or funny radio-related story, an article or a question you would like to share via the HARC Reflector? Please send it/them to Lynn, at velent@rac.ca Please show "For Reflector" in the "Subject" box so I don't miss it. -ed

# Couple Brought Lifesaving Project to N.S.

SOUTH ALTON — It all started because Ron Arenburg was worried about his father getting lost in the woods.

He had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and was prone to wandering. So in 2009, Ron, an information technology consultant, began looking for some kind of technology that would help locate his father if he suddenly went missing.

That is when he discovered Project Lifesaver International in Virginia. It is a non-profit association that provides equipment, training and support to protect at-risk individuals, particularly those with Alzheimer's disease, autism and Down syndrome.

The group provides specialized electronic search and rescue bracelets and trains law enforcement agencies, public safety officials and community groups in the procedures to rescue missing persons.

Ron and wife Nancy Arenburg, who live in South Alton, near Kentville, are longtime volunteer search managers at Valley Search and Rescue.

"We knew from our search background that because anyone with Alzheimer's or a cognitive disability is prone to wandering, they're the most difficult people to find," Nancy said in an interview before flying to Toronto for the weekend for a national search and rescue conference.

While there Sunday, the couple accepted the National Search and Rescue Program Award of Excellence on behalf of Valley Search and Rescue.

Nominated by the provincial government, the award recognizes their innovative work in bringing Project Lifesaver to Nova Scotia.

The program is also expanding in other Canadian areas.

Since bringing the project here in 2009, the Arenburgs and Valley

Search and Rescue have trained all 24 search teams in Nova Scotia. Fourteen of those are now accepting clients. To date, there are 64 clients registered in the province.

The Halifax area, the most populated region in the province, has not come on stream yet, but searchers were trained last summer and the project is being put in place.

Last September, the Arenburgs trained the first team of searchers in Sussex, N.B. Earlier this month, they trained a Prince Edward Island team

"It's very humbling," Nancy said of the award. "We never went into this for recognition. But it's very gratifying.

"We've encountered so many wonderful people, and if we can do something to help them and our community, that's what we're interested in."

In July 2011, an eight-year-old autistic girl went missing in woods in Margaretsville, Annapolis County. Because she was wearing a Project Lifesaver bracelet and registered in the program, she was located in 17 minutes, a rare feat by most search standards.

"Did it save her life?" asked Nancy. "We can't say that for sure. But having been brought home in 17 minutes, she was none the worse for wear, and she could have been."

Registering with Project Lifesaver gives families peace of mind, she said.

It may have saved seven-year-old James Delorey, who died after spending two nights in Cape Breton woods in December 2009.

Veronica Fraser, the mother of the autistic boy, told The Chronicle Herald last year that her son would have worn a device if one had been available then.

The lightweight wristbands emit a

radio signal unique to each user that can be picked up by hand-held and vehicle-mounted scanners. They cost about \$300.

"We're always proud of the work our ground search and rescue teams do, and this project is a testament to the dedication of these volunteers," Education Minister Ramona Jennex said in news release.

"This technology is usually implemented by police agencies, but the Arenburgs and Valley Search and Rescue saw the potential for Nova Scotia and took the initiative to bring it here."

The government helped secure \$212,000 in federal funding to bring Project Lifesaver technology and training to all provincial search and rescue teams.

Sent in by Joe, VE1EEE

(Continued from page 3) RAC President's Report Section Managers to RAC and to the pages of TCA.

Ontario North: Allan Boyd, VE3AJB Ontario East: Michael Hickey, VE3IPC

Ontario GTA: George Duffield, VE3WJK

Ontario South: Ian Snow, VA3QT I am confident that 2013 will be a good year for RAC. We have done well in 2012, both nationally and internationally. I expect even better in 2013.

We need more dedicated volunteers: a Secretary, Treasurer and Deputy Directors in some regions. Please let the office know of your interest or email me at ve4baw@rac.ca hope to hear you on the air!"

— 73, Geoff, VE4BAW

Dear iPhone,

Please stop spellchecking all of my rude words into nice words. You piece of shut.

Sincerely, Every iPhone User



#### **Halifax Amateur Radio Club**

General Meeting Minutes November 21, 2012

Meeting called to order at 1930 by Fraser, VE1WO

Quorum present - 25 members

Silent keys – none presented

Fraser mentioned club member Fred Allen being in hospital due to being hit by a car, and a quick update on his condition.

Motion to accept the agenda as presented: Doug (LDL) Jason (PYE) ... Carried

Members present: VE1's - OU, AI, AE, CU, BC, IGP, PYE, SMC, JG, LDL, AJZ, JMA, AGP, BSG, GFH, TRI, QA, EGG, CAW, JIM, TOM, CDD, BSW, JHF, WO and VA3IIF.

Motion to accept the minutes from the October general meeting: Jim (JIM), seconded by Tom (TOM) Carried.

Treasurer's report: John (CDD) gave a quick statement of account, further details to be left for the AGM. John (CDD) made a motion to accept, seconded by Ian (IGP) ... Carried.

Executive reports: Betty (BSW) reminded everyone of the upcoming Christmas party on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>, and for those who planned to attend to let her know.

Bill (MR) reported that the Cowie Hill repeater building is buttoned up for the winter.

#### Committee reports:

Dave (AGP) had nothing to report on the EMO side.

On the SAR side, the SAR team is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and they are having a celebration coming up on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, and imparted a few memories of his time in the SAR. He mentioned some new radios in the command bus (Aircraft and Marine), and a quick

note about the Hammonds Plain Road "Haunt" around Halloween, and that the group that sponsors it donated a \$15,000 check to the HSAR group for their support efforts to the group.

He then mentioned the upcoming renovation to the SAR headquarters to the tune of \$180,000 and some of the features of the new building.

Fraser asked Spud to give a quick reminiscence of the recent sinking of the HMS Bounty and the rescue attempts and the part that amateur radio played in it.

Membership: 113 Full members, 28 Associate, 4 Life.

Reflector: 32 copies by mail, 109 by email

Carol reported that there were another 7 taken at the meeting

Basic course: Eric (JEH) was not present, but asked for a quick report from anyone associated with it. Bill (MR) gave a quick rundown.

#### Old Business:

Combination Flea Market... Fraser reported that all the clubs seem to be onboard with the idea, but that there was ongoing discussion with everyone, but there would be no combined flea market in 2013 at this point.

Remote Station at the club: Fraser reported that there are some club members that are working on various aspects of the project, but that no one had come forward to take charge of the project at this time.

Nothing else to report for old business.

#### New Business:

Fraser reported that he had been in touch with the Forum regarding the 2013 Flea Market and have set a tentative date of May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013, but he has been playing phone tag with the gentleman at the Forum

regarding this, but there might be a potential conflict with that date, so a meeting was in order.

Fraser reported that Tom had called him with regards to the tube bank, and that there was a gentleman in Hammonds Plains (VE1ZA) Tony, who has expressed interest in obtaining the tube bank in its entirety (possibly). This was an FYI.

Fraser mentioned about an article in the last TCA magazine with regards to the provincial legislation regarding the use of mobile radios, and the challenge by RAC to these legislations for an exemption for amateur radio operators. There has been 5 year extension to the exemption put in place for radio amateurs, except in New Brunswick, to be able to use their radios in a mobile setting.

There were a couple of questions and comments on the preceding report.

Dick (AI) asked Bill (MR) if he could check the timer on the UHF repeater. Bill said he would check it out next time he was up there.

No other new business.

Door Prize: \$20 Sobeys Gift certificate won by Tom (TOM)

50/50 Draw: won by ?? \$29.50

15 minute break before AGM.

Motion to adjourn: Doug (LDL), seconded by Jason (PYE) Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF Club Secretary

A blonde calls Delta Airlines and asks, 'Can you tell me how long it'll take to fly from San Francisco to New York City ?'



The agent replies, 'Just a minute.'

'Thank you,' the blonde says, and hangs up.

#### Fire at Halifax Regional Ground Search & Rescue Facility

It could have been so much worse!

If Al Prosser (VE1AWP) and Todd Roberts had not been doing some work in the Command Vehicle next to the GSAR's Suburban support vehicle when the Suburban's engine caught fire, flames would likely have been shooting from



Photo taken less than 5 minutes after Alan and Glen finished emptying 6 full fire extinguishers into the Suburban's engine area in an attempt to contain the fire

the building's roof before anyone could notice but the Suburban's horn began



blowing as it shorted out. Alerted, Alan & Todd saw the flames & smoke and raced out of the building, Alan in search of fire extinguishers, Todd to call 911. Luckily a GSAR volunteer (Glen) doing renovation work in the adjacent building knew where the fire extinguishers were located.

Alan and Glen sprayed the contents of 6 full fire extinguishers into the engine area in an attempt to contain the fire. Their quick action delayed the spread & definitely saved the building



and contents from more extensive damage. Several minutes later the fire department arrived.

The GSAR Command vehicle is being professionally assessed to ensure no hidden damage was done.

The cause of the fire is being investigated.

#### **REMINDER**

Have you changed your address? E-mail address? Got a new call sign? Please send your change of address to The Britt Fader Memorial

QSL Bureau P.O. Box 8895 Halifax, N.S. B3K 5M5

Is your address correct in Industry Canada's database? It is important that you inform Industry Canada of any change to your address.

# **Travel Safety** – Avoid stray dogs when in India

An article in the New York times warns of the danger of stray dogs in New Delhi, India. India has more stray dogs than any other country.

Avoid them as many bite  $\gamma$  and some carry rabies.

An estimated 20,000 people die each year in India from rabies infections –

more than half the global rabies total.

Exaggerations. I Owe My Mother ....

My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS.

"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."

My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM.

"Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"

My mother taught me about STAMINA ..

"You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."

My mother taught me about WEATHER.

"This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."

My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY.

"If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"

My mother taught me about ENVY.
"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."

## From the Mail Bag



From John, VE1WZ **The Space Station** 

This link will take you to the Space Station and a "personal tour" by Sunita Williams. She explains how all aspects of human needs are handled. It lasts about 25 minutes, but is well worth it. Be sure to watch it full screen

http://www.wimp.com/orbitaltour/

Hi There Folks:

The space station communications demo was a great show and just super for amateur radio. Sure looks like the kids had a great time.

Thanks to you guys and all of the others that made the show possible.

73 and all of the best, Don, VE1AMC

http://www.ve1bc.com/files/ Manuscript%20VE1FO.pdf

The latest copy of my history of HARC is on my web site at the above URL. This has the last field day, a note on the loss of HMS BOUNTY, etc. Please take a minute to look it over and let me know anything that is missing, etc. There are now 369 pages. It is not possible to email it to anyone but if one wants a copy I can forward a CD.

Spud VE1BC

Sign In an office:



FOR SALE TS-430s, PS-430 & Ten

Kenwood TS-430s, PS-430 & Ten Tec 228 ~ Asking \$200.00

I have for sale a Kenwood TS-430 HF transceiver and matching PS-430 power supply. These need some work, BUT does work well on AM. The power supply needs a few diodes, capacitors, and a cleaning. Included is a Ten Tec 228 Antenna Tuner, this is a rock solid reliable tuner. The radio also comes with a hand mic, CW key AND owners & service manuals. I am hoping to put this rig into the hands of someone with the knowledge & skill, to be able to bring it back to it's former glory. A good transceiver does not sit around collecting dust!! This rig does NOT have the FM board, but does have capability of covering pretty much everything from 2 Mhz - 30 Mhz. If interested, Please contact!!

Jim Smith, VE1SFX ve1sfx@eastlink.ca

It is also posted on Kijiji http://halifax.kijiji.ca/ c-buy-and-sell-electronics-Kenwood-TS-430s-PS-430-Ten-Tec-22 8-Asking-250-00-W0QQAdIdZ441 213338 Have you heard of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation? Do you wonder what sort of things it supports? Well...

Most of us take the flush toilet - which has changed little since its development in 1775 - for granted but in the developing world lack of water, infrastructure, etc. leave about 40% of the world's population without access to safe sanitation.

Last year the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation gave grants to 8 universities around the world to help tackle the problem by creating a hygienic toilet that uses little or no water, is safe & affordable and can transform the waste into energy, clean water and nutrients. In the summer of 2012 Gates presented prizes to the teams that showed the most progress. Caltech received the \$100K first prize for its working model of a solar-powered bathroom where a solar panel produces power for an electrochemical reactor that breaks down feces & urine into hydrogen gas which can be stored in hydrogen fuel cells to provide a backup energy source for night or low sunlight conditions.

Source: the Montreal Gazette Too bad it is not DX-pedition portable. —ed

### **Borrowing HARC Materials?**

One of the many benefits of HARC membership is the privilege of borrowing club assets. These can be any of the Amateur Radio related monthly publications, technical library literature or club equipment Contact Station Manager Jim Flowers, VE1JIM, for equipment loans.

For the information of those who borrow, a "LOAN RECORD" binder is available in the club Library

Before you borrow please read the instruction sheet at the front of the binder. Following that, entry of the requested information is made simple by filling in the anoted fields.

Take advantage of this valued feature of HARC membership!

#### **NOTICE**

If you are interested in getting fall arrest certification for tower climbing. please contact an executive member. No course is currently scheduled but you want to be sure to be on the list for a seat.

Dear 2013.

So I hear the best rapper is white and the president is black? WTF happened? Sincerely, 1985

# Charles. P. Allen High School ARISS contact January 5<sup>th</sup> 2013

Friday January 4<sup>th</sup> was the start of set up at the school about noon. We assembled the rotators, mast, crossboom, mounted the antennas and ran cables - both the 2 RF and 2 rotator cables. We were using a KLM 22C (a 22 element circularly polarized beam) for the primary antenna and a Diamond 500 vertical for the secondary antenna. Both had receive pre amplifiers installed at the antenna. The rotator system was a Yaesu G-5600B azimuth rotator and elevation rotator. The radios were both Yaesu FT-736R for the primary and back up. The set up was done in freezing temperatures with windy conditions - it was cold out there. Helping with set up was Doug, VE1LDL, Wayne, VE1WPH, Eric Thibodeau (our sound technician) and several students including Will Harris, VA1INN a recent graduate of the HARC basic course. I know there were several others I have missed. Tired out we quite about 8 PM with the plan to finish set up on Saturday morning.

On Saturday morning we finished setting up the gear and then Murphy struck. The azimuth rotator seemed to have a problem. I went home and picked up my rotator control box and when trying it found the same problem at which point we were too close to the contact to trouble shoot the problem. We made a decision to use the back up equipment with the original primary equipment to be used as a back up if we could hear the space station on it. Helping with set up on Saturday were most of the same people with the welcome addition of Terry, VE1TRB.

As the time of the contact drew closer the tension was mounting. We initiated the call to the space station and heard Chris Hadfield reply "VE1CPA this is NA1SS how do you copy" we immediately went back but did not hear any reply. We tried calling several times and sometimes heard Chris calling us - it was obvious we were not being heard and we could not always hear him. By this time everyone was very tense and then we heard Chis say he was switching to the secondary frequency. We immediately called on the secondary frequency and contact was established We had lost about half of the 10 minute pass. The students were very quick in their questions and Chris was doing a fine job of responding quickly, the contact was progressing very smoothly but unfortunately time ran out. After the seventh student (there were 9) we heard Chris come back but noticed the signal was beginning to drop down. At this point Wayne stepped up to the microphone and bid goodby and had the crowd send a cheer to Chris

Then it was time to tear down and we were helped by most of the people who helped set up with the addition of Ian Harris, VE1INN. We are still trying to determine what went wrong with the equipment and will try to report our findings later once we have any idea what happened. Overall it was a successful contact and the students and audience were quite thrilled to be able to hear directly from the space station.

This contact generated a huge amount of publicity for Amateur Radio and the space station on radio, television and the internet. I am a little hazy on all the details here since Friday and Saturday seem to be a blur. I know I missed naming several people who helped with set up and tear down. We did a lot in one and a half days to make this contact happen. A lot of effort was put into the preparation, set up and tear down but it was worth the effort. The only down side was that 2 students were not able to ask their questions.

Bill Elliott, VE1MR

#### **ARISS** contacts

Saturday, January 5, 2013, marked the beginning of a historical series of ARISS contacts between Canadian students from coast to coast to coast and Canadian Space Agency Astronaut Chris Hadfield, VA3OOG. This first contact included students from Charles P. Allen High School, Bedford and began at approximately 1:30PM.

The event was open to the public.

A special guest speaker was Canada's first Astronaut Marc Garneau.

Coverage from media was extensive with national coverage provided by CBC. Check out the video on these web sites:

.http://www.cbc.ca/player/News/Canada/NS/ID/2323450116/

http://www.youtube.com/watch? v=gg4qLUYTrug

http://www.n2yo.com/?s=25544 http://www.hrsb.ns.ca/

The C.P.Allen contact was the first of 5 ARISS contacts planned for the 4 At-

scheduled are:

January 12 - Royal Canadian Air Cadets, Newfoundland Detachment, St. John's NFLD (Direct)

lantic Canada in January. Currently

Week of January 14 - 20, Saint Rose Elementary School, Saint John, NB (Direct)

Week of January 14 - 20, Stonepark Intermediate School, Charlottetown, PEI (Direct)

Week of January 28 - February 3, Fountain Academy of the Sacred Heart, Halifax, NS (Telebridge)

Chris Hadfield has recently joined 5 other crewmates as part of Expedition 34. In March of 2013, as the crew increment changes to Excepdition 35, Chris will assume command of the orbiting platform. In doing so he will become the first Canadian to command a spacecraft.

73, Wayne, VE1WPH, ARISS (Canada) Mentor"

### Page 10 January 2013 Volume 74 Number 1

### The Halifax Amateur Radio Club **Reflector**

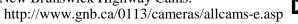
The ARISS / C.P.Allen High School contact did not go smoothly but, as the tension mounted, communication was finally achieved using the backup frequency about half way through the pass. The students wasted no time asking their questions.

What you don't see on the TV news coverage or the internet videos is all the prep time including the planning, the negotiating, the preparing, packing up & transporting of equipment, the "-C" temperature outdoor setup of the club trailer with telescoping mast, adding azimuth & elevation rotator, the running of cables, indoor equipment deployment, etc.

Present were the students & teachers & amateur radio techs & ops then there were the CBC camera crew & interviewer, and the public who responded to the previous evening news announcement (surprising to me) that the event was open to the public.

Good fortune to Ken and the other St. John's hams with your ARRISS contact next weekend - ed.

Want to check road conditions before driving? New Brunswick Highway Cams:



Nova Scotia Highway Cams:

http://gov.ns.ca/tran/cameras/camera.asp

PEI Highway Cams:

http://www.gov.pe.ca/tpwpei/index.php3? number=1016836&lang=E

The live web cam showing Halifax's Armdale Rotory is http://www.novascotiawebcams.com/halifax/armdale-rotary. html#axzz1AmMziRUo

#### DARWIN AWARDS NOMINEE:

A man cleaning a bird feeder on the balcony of his condominium apartment in Mississauga, Ont. slipped and fell 23 stories to his death. Stefan Mack, 55, was standing on a wheelchair when the accident occurred, and. "it appears that the chair moved, and he went over the balcony," Inspector Darcy Homer of the Peel Regional Police said.

